

Sista

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE

O N

F A I R H O U S I N G

sponsored by

NEW JERSEY COMMITTEE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1963

RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY

NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

IN THE COMMON CAUSE

The Story of the NEW JERSEY COMMITTEE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING

How it Started

A small item in the press during the last week of June, 1958 declaring that the New Jersey Levittown in Burlington County was going to be an all-white community triggered a spate of telephone calls among the leaders of human relations and civil rights organizations in the state. As a result, on July 1 about 300 people converged on Trenton and decided that a concerted effort must be made in New Jersey not only to frustrate an openly declared discriminatory housing policy of a builder who had not yet sold a single home, but to achieve additional objectives in the field of housing. Through the voluntary participation of individuals and organizations concerned with human rights, there would be, they decided, a strengthening of the anti-discrimination laws, improvement of enforcement procedures, legal aid where special needs or problems existed, and education of the community about the objectives of fair housing and of the means toward this end.

What Does it Consist of?

The original twenty-eight member organizations have by this time become seventy. They are church groups, civic organizations, trade unions, minority group organizations, fair housing and human relations committees and municipal civil rights commissions. Some work exclusively to achieve open occupancy; for others this may be a small part of their total program. But all of them have an abiding concern for providing fair housing opportunities for all Americans. Each organization is represented by two of its designees to the Board of Directors. There is also provision for individual members.

What Has it Done?

Strengthening the state laws on housing discrimination and assuring successful litigation were among the first tasks the Committee assumed. We therefore participated in the drafting and passage of legislation, achieved in 1961, providing for the coverage of certain private housing under the anti-discrimination law.

The Committee also provided counsel for complainants in the Levittown and Green Field Farms cases and brought both to a successful conclusion through three state courts and the Supreme Court of the United States. These established the constitutionality of the 1947 law against discrimination in housing.

(continued page 11)

P R O G R A M

9:00 A. M.

REGISTRATION

Blake Hall

College of Agriculture

9:45 A. M.

MORNING SESSION

OPENING REMARKS

SYDNEY KELLNER,
Conference Chairman;
New Jersey Director,
American Jewish Committee

WELCOME

DR. THEODORE A. RATH,
President; President
Bloomfield College

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER JULIUS WILDSTEIN,
Chairman, Executive Board

THE PROBLEM OF FAIR HOUSING--CHALLENGE OF THE 1960s

Housing and intergroup relations within the
framework of the social forces in the over-
all urban-suburban complex.

CHARLES ABRAMS

Author; consultant on housing, planning and
community development; President, National
Committee Against Discrimination in Housing

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RECORDER

MRS. FLORENCE MANNI,
Bloomfield Better Human
Relations Council

10:30 A. M.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS

1. TODAY'S CHANGING NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE BIG CITIES

An examination of major New Jersey cities with sections in rapid change, and prospects for solution.

SECTION A

Adm. Bldg.
ROOM 211

Consultants:

DANIEL S. ANTHONY, Executive Director, Newark Human Rights Commission

MRS. REYNOLD E. BURCH, Director, The Leaguers, Newark

ROBERT HAZELWOOD, Housing Chairman, Camden Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

MRS. ELIZABETH HOLLANDER, Housing and Home Finance Agency, Philadelphia

Discussion Leader:

FATHER GERARD J. MURPHY, S.J.; Vice-President; Faculty, St. Peter's College, Jersey City

Recorder:

MRS. GRACE GOLAT, Community Service Committee, Essex County Urban League

SECTION B

Paultry
ROOM 206

Consultants:

REV. JOHN W. COLLIER, JR., President, United Ministerial Alliance, Newark

REV. KINMOTH W. JEFFERSON, Minister of Community Relations, Trinity Methodist Church, Newark

ALBERT MERMIN, Director, Urban Renewal and Relocation Agency, New Haven, Connecticut

MARSHALL STALLEY, Assistant Director, Urban Studies Center, Rutgers University

Discussion Leader:

JAMES A. PAWLEY, Executive Director, Urban League of Essex County

Recorder:

MRS. LARRIE W. STALKS, Executive Secretary, Newark Planning Board

2. THE URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE PATH OF CHANGE

Transitional communities where neighborhood changes are about to take place.

SECTION A

Blake Bldg.
ROOM 231
229

Consultants:

MONROE DOWLING, Executive Secretary, Urban League of
Englewood

REV. LLOYD L. NOYES, Chairman, Montclair Human
Relations Council

MARVIN RICH, Community Relations Director, Congress
of Racial Equality

Discussion Leader:

JOEL R. JACOBSON, Executive Vice-President, New Jersey
AFL-CIO

Recorder:

RALPH ZINN, Newark Human Rights Commission

SECTION B

ROOM 230

Consultants:

DAVID BLUMGART, Weequahic Neighborhood Council

ISHAM JONES, Supervisor of Compliance, New Jersey
Division on Civil Rights

REV. WALTER S. TAYLOR, Commissioner for Urban Renewal;
Member, Englewood Housing Authority

Discussion Leader:

HOWARD RADEST, Leader, Bergen County Ethical Culture
Society

Recorder:

STEVE DUNCAN, Editor, New Jersey Afro-American

3. THE NEW SUBURBS

Creating acceptance of minority groups through community organization.

Dairy Bldg.
ROOM 123

SECTION AConsultants:

EMERSON DARNELL, Attorney, Camden

ERMON K. JONES, Neptune Township

HORACE MORRIS, Burlington County Planning Board

Discussion Leader:

MRS. CHARLOTTE MEACHAM, Executive Secretary, American Friends Service Committee

Recorder:

MRS. RUTH LOTZ, Princeton Intergroup Relations Committee

SECTION B

ROOM ~~229~~

Consultants:

231

DAVID LUDLOW, Summit-New Providence Fair Housing Committee

REV. DAVID McALPIN, Witherspoon Presbyterian Church, Princeton

MRS. JOAN SMITH, Levittown, formerly Central Jersey representative, New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

Discussion Leader:

REV. RAYMOND PONTIER, Allwood Community Church, Clifton

Recorder:

NORMAN FARQUAHAR, Burlington County Goodwill Council

12:45 P. M.

LUNCHEON SESSION

Dining Hall, Neilson Campus

PRESIDING

DR. THEODORE A. RATH,
President; President,
Bloomfield College

INVOCATION

FATHER GERARD J. MURPHY, S.J.;
Vice-President; Faculty,
St. Peter's College, Jersey
City

MESSAGE

GOVERNOR RICHARD J. HUGHES

SIDNEY REITMAN, Chairman,
New Jersey Commission on
Civil Rights

RECOGNITION AWARDS

HERBERT H. TATE,
Vice-President, New Jersey
State Conference of
Branches, National Associa-
tion for the Advancement of
Colored People

JULIUS WILDSTEIN,
Vice-President, New Jersey
Region, American Jewish
Congress

SAMUEL A. WILLIAMS, Former
President, New Jersey State
Conference of Branches,
National Association for
the Advancement of Colored
People

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER HERBERT H. TATE

ADDRESS

ROY WILKINS
National Executive Secretary,
National Association for
the Advancement of Colored
People

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RECORDER:

MRS. LAURA INGERSOLL
Chairman, West Essex Fair
Housing Committee

2:30 P. M.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSIONS Blake Hall
College of Agriculture

1. THE ROLE OF CIVIC, RELIGIOUS AND SERVICE GROUPS IN
FAIR HOUSING ROOM 231

Consultants:

FATHER THOMAS J. CAREY, Queen of Angels Rectory,
Newark

RABBI ISRAEL S. DRESNER, Temple Sharey Shalom,
Springfield

MISS MARY E. FARMER, Executive Director, Young Women's
Christian Association, Summit

ARTHUR B. FISHER, Acting Chairman, Community Develop-
ment Committee, Englewood

MRS. SHIRLEY PASSOW, President, Health and Welfare
Council of Bergen County

Discussion Leader:

REV. ALEXANDER H. SHAW, General Secretary, New Jersey
Council of Churches

Recorder:

MRS. WILLIAM FORE, Past Chairman, Fair Housing
Committee of Cresskill

2. REAL ESTATE BROKERS, BUILDERS, BANKERS AND LAWYERS

Building bridges in the community. ROOM 229

Consultants:

CHARLES ABRAMS, President, National Committee Against
Discrimination in Housing

ROBERT R. PEACOCK, Secretary-Director, New Jersey
Real Estate Commission

Discussion Leader:

PHILIP E. HOFFMAN, National Vice-President, American
Jewish Committee

Recorder:

ROBERT MOSS, Builder, Trenton

3. HOW TO DEAL WITH MINORITY GROUP MOVE-INS

Poultry
ROOM 206

Consultants:

MRS. CAMILLA LOCKWOOD, Housing Committee, Burlington
County Human Relations Council

HON. RAYMOND MONAHAN, Mayor of Morristown

REV. DAVID H. NEWSON, Watchung Presbyterian Church,
Bloomfield

STEPHEN J. REMSEN, State, County and Municipal
Employees, AFL-CIO

Discussion Leader:

MRS. JESSAMINE MERRILL, Executive Director, Trenton
Council on Human Relations

Recorder:

CHARLES COOVER, Trenton, President, Alumni Association,
Rutgers Intergroup Relations Work-
shop

4. DEVELOPING PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL FAIR HOUSING
COMMITTEES

Adm.
ROOM 211

Consultants:

GEORGE GOLDSMITH, Princeton Housing Committee

JAMES HARVEY, Burlington County Human Relations Council

PHILIP JOHNSON, Shore Citizens for Better Human
Relations, Monmouth County,
Farmingdale, New Jersey

JOHN KOLB, Chairman, Essex County Fair Housing
Committee

ISAAC McNATT, Chairman, Teaneck Fair Housing Committee,
Bergen County

DR. ERWIN F. SCHOENEWALDT, President, Westfield Area
for Human Rights

Discussion Leader:

HOWARD RADEST, Leader, Bergen County Ethical Culture
Society

Recorder:

HOWARD CRAVIS, Westfield, American Jewish Committee

4. TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES FOR--AND AGAINST--INTEGRATED HOUSING ROOM 123

231

Consultants:

MRS. FRANCES LEVENSON, Executive Director, National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing

MARSHALL STALLEY, Urban Studies Center, Rutgers

REV. HOMER J. TUCKER, Chairman, Department of Social Welfare, Greater Newark Council of Churches

CONRAD VUOCOLO, Jersey City Housing Authority

MRS. RAY WEISSMAN, Bergen County Fair Housing Committee

Discussion Leader:

REV. BEN ANDERSON, Vice-President, Modern Community Developers, Princeton

Recorder:

MRS. JANET ROSS, Education Chairman, Essex County Fair Housing Committee

4:00 P. M.

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

Auditorium, Blake Hall

PRESIDING

REV. ALEXANDER H. SHAW, Vice-President, New Jersey Committee Against Discrimination in Housing

THE STATE AND FAIR HOUSING

GEORGE S. PFAUS, Director, New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

THE ROAD AHEAD FOR THE COMMITTEE

ARNOLD HARRIS, Secretary, New Jersey Committee Against Discrimination in Housing

Recorder:

GEORGE DOWNS, Riverdale United Automobile Workers, AFL-CIO

*

LITERATURE DISPLAY

LOUIS GLICKMAN, New Jersey Director, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith

What is it Doing?

In addition to continuing the effort to extend the coverage of the fair housing laws embodied in Assembly Bill 314, already passed in the present Assembly, and to strengthening the cooperation between the Division on Civil Rights and other governmental agencies, and private organizations, the Committee is trying to enlarge the number of voluntary groups working for open occupancy especially on the local community level, and to help strengthen them and make their activities more meaningful by providing information, guidance and education. The Committee keeps a watchful eye on all developments in the state affecting open occupancy and seeks to bring local or state-wide forces to bear upon problems where needed and to assist in the creation of facilities where they don't exist.

Where is it Going?

The major need in the months ahead after passage of A-314 will lie in the fields of community action and enforcement. More local fair housing committees representing a cross-section of the communal structure are needed in order to bring together potential buyers and willing sellers, and to teach the local citizenry that human beings can live on the same streets happily and constructively without regard to racial or religious differences. Enforcement is the other side of the coin. The existence of the law is not enough; it must be understood, utilized and effectively administered. Local citizen groups can make, through their attention to this process, a major impact on the problems of fair housing in New Jersey, and therefore upon the well-being of all people. A.H.

OFFICERS

President

Dr. Theodore A. Rath

Vice-Presidents

Rabbi Israel Dresner

Rev. Gerard J. Murphy, S.J.

Rev. Alexander H. Shaw

Secretary

Arnold Harris

Treasurer

Samuel A. Williams

Executive Committee

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Rev. Ben Anderson
Daniel S. Anthony
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Sam Brown
Ben Collier
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Louis Glickman
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Sidney Reitman
Stephen J. Remsen
Mrs. Belle Rosenberg
William Rossmore
Marshall Stalley
Morton Stavis
Herbert H. Tate
Rev. Samuel H. Woodson

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for Integration and Dignity
 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Beta Alpha Omega Chapter
 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Epsilon Upsilon Omega Chapter
 American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey
 American Jewish Committee
 American Jewish Congress, New Jersey Region
 Americans for Democratic Action, New Jersey Council
 Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
 Association of Business and Professional Women of Camden and Vicinity
 Burlington Citizens Council Civic League
 Burlington County Human Relations Council
 Burlington County Industrial Union Council
 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Department of Labor, Migration Division
 Congress of Racial Equality, Essex County Chapter
 Cranford Committee for Open Housing
 Elizabeth Good Neighbor Council
 Fair Housing Committee of Bergen County
 Hudson-Delaware Council for Ethical Culture
 Human Relations Council of Nutley
 International Chemical Workers Union, Local 295, AFL-CIO
 International Ladies Garment Workers union, Eastern Region
 International Union of Electrical Workers, Amalgamated Metal Machine
 and Novelty Workers Union, Local 422
 International Union of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO Local 401
 International Union of Electrical Workers, Civil Rights Committee, Local 447
 International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, District 4
 International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, AFL-CIO Local 400
 International Union of Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, Local 411
 Jewish Community Council of Essex County
 Jewish Labor Committee
 Just-A-Mere Literary Club
 Modern Community Developers
 Montclair Council on Human Relations
 National Alliance of Postal Employees, Newark Branch
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Burlington County Chapter
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Camden
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New
 Jersey State Conference
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Newark
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Trenton
 National Association of College Women, North Jersey Branch
 National Council of Jewish Women, New Jersey Regional
 Negro Civic Council
 New Jersey State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs
 New Jersey State Federation of Realtists
 New Jersey AFL-CIO
 New Jersey Council of Churches
 New Jersey Council of Puerto Rican Organizations
 Newark Human Rights Commission
 Paterson Commission on Human Relations
 Quest Club
 Rabbinical Assembly of New Jersey
 Roselle Community Council
 Shore Citizens for Better Human Relations
 Teaneck Fair Housing Committee
 Tri-Boro Women's Improvement League
 Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice, Morristown Chapter
 Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice, Plainfield Chapter
 United Automobile, Aircraft, Agricultural Implement Workers of
 America, Local 511
 United Automobile Workers of America, Region 9
 United Automobile Workers of America, AFL-CIO Local 731
 United Steelworkers of America, District 7
 United Steelworkers of America, District 9
 United Steelworkers of America, Local 2026
 United Steelworkers of America, Local 2040
 United Steelworkers of America, Local 5298
 Urban League of Englewood
 Urban League of Essex County
 Urban League of New Brunswick
 Vineland Ethical Society
 West Palmyra Community League
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, New Jersey State
 Branch